

281  
A true Reporte of the  
*taking of the great towne*  
and Castell of Polorzko, by the  
King of Polonia.

With the manner of the Assaults,  
Batteries, Underminings, Skir-  
mishes and Fyreworkes, that  
were there bled, from the  
11. of August to the.30  
of the same Month.

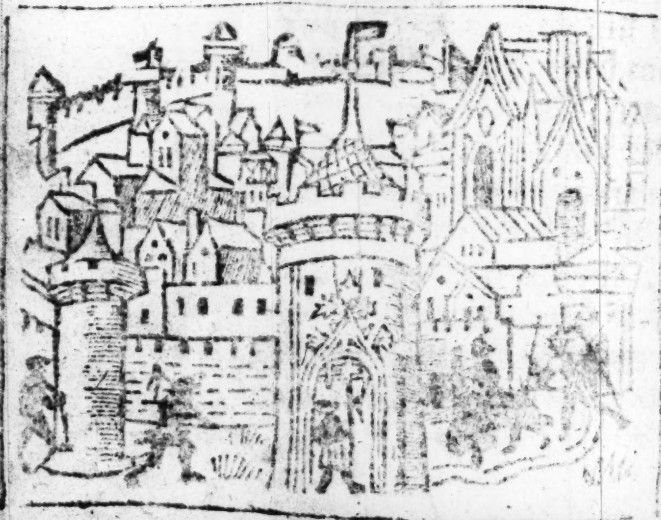
1579.

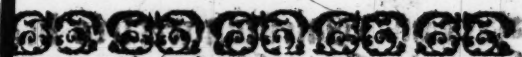


A true Reporte of the  
taking of the great towne  
and Castell of Polozko, by the  
king of Polonia.

With the manner of the Assault,  
the Fortification, the  
murther and destruction that  
there was done from the  
11. of August to the 30.  
of the same Month.

1772.





A true Reporte of the  
taking of the Towne and  
Castell of Polotzko, by the King  
of Polonia, the 30. of August

1579.



*He last of June*  
the King of Polonia  
beinge at a Towne  
called Wilde, brake  
up his Siege and came to Sue-  
rum, to muster there: In whiche  
place, his Maestie called toge-  
ther his Lordes and Captaines  
and men of warre, to know after  
what order they should provide  
for the safegarde and defence of  
theit Countrey, and howe for to  
keepe the enimie, which was the  
Moscouette from them, and  
there

there his Maestie agreed to be-  
sege the Citie of Polotzko, be-  
cause that Towne lyeth in the  
border of the great Dukedome  
of Litto, and principallye of the  
Towne of Villo, and there lyeth  
no Fortresse betweene that and  
the Wilde, and if he had not ta-  
ken the waye to the same Citie,  
he should haue geuen his enemye  
waye to haue entered into the  
Dukedome of Litto, and also to  
the Wilde: and therefore his Ma-  
iestie found it needefull to looke  
to, because he tooke this war in  
hande, not onely to recouer that  
same Towne to the Crowne of  
Poland againe, as it hath beene  
in times past: but to withstand  
þe enemye, & to keepe him back. In  
his Country, the winter is very  
hard, with verye great raines,  
snowes, fogges and continuall  
frosts:

to be frostes: and therefore very perila-  
 , be- lous to make war, in which the  
 in the king of Poland hath found verpe  
 dome dangerous in passing from the  
 of the Wilde to the saide Cittie of Po-  
 lyeth lorzko, by reason of the clammye  
 and ground, with the great thawes  
 t ta- and faines, and Deepe ryuers,  
 Citie, with the great trouble of his ca-  
 mie ryage, of his great ordinaunce,  
 the powder, shot, munition, and all o-  
 so to ther kinde of artillerie, with the  
 Pa- losse of his horses and other beas-  
 ke- tes for want of sustenance tra-  
 r in uailing those barraine wilderness  
 hat and heigh mountaines: yet no-  
 e of thing could discozage this migh-  
 ene ty prince fro taking of this enter-  
 and prise in hand, although manye of  
 In his Noblemen and wise Captai-  
 ry- nes did shew what perill it were  
 es, for him to passe with so great an  
 all Armie, and telling of him the  
 s: A.iii. strength

strength of the Towne and the  
Castell with all other inconueni-  
aunces: yet could hee not be per-  
swaded from his opinion: but  
rather the more encouraged, ga-  
thered his people together: and  
hoping that if hee could take that  
Towne, it would be a great dis-  
couragement to his enemies and  
a great encouragement to his  
owne Soldiours: because this Ci-  
tie is the strongest and greatest  
in all his Dominions. And his  
Majestie did send out of Suero  
the honorable Nicolaum Radzi-  
uil, chiefe Gouvernour of the To-  
wne called the Wilde, with a cer-  
tain nūber of Horsemen & foote-  
men with a certain nūber of Hun-  
garians: with the Honorable Cal-  
per Bekize to þ Citie of Polotzko,  
to stoppe the high wayes, that  
there might com no succour from  
the





the money: and in the meane tyme  
his forwarde took the three Cas-  
sels called: Cosiagua, Cusag and  
Sicuo. in their money, which they  
quickly looted and burnt. And  
the 11. of August his Maiestie  
with all his power came nere to  
the Towne of Polozko, and pyel-  
ched his Camps far from the  
walles of the Towne: and then  
his Maiestie caused his Camps  
in three places to bee intrenched  
against the Towne. And as the  
Towne being very strongly fen-  
ced with very strong Bulwarke  
and other fortresses: and being  
very well provided of all manner  
powder shot and other Engines,  
and putting great confidence in  
the Castell, which stood without  
the Towne, issued out of the Towne  
and forced the King of Polonia  
to withdraw him selfe from that  
: 233 : .m. 6 parte



285  
part of the Towne, where the  
suburbes were, in which place  
the Castell stode: but in the end  
the Polones had the victorie, and  
chaased the Moscoes into the To-  
wne & the Castell, & set the Sub-  
urbes a fyre. And in shorte time  
wholly destroyed it. And after  
this they did dayly vnder minde  
the ground, till they came vnder  
the these gate of the Castell: but  
the almyghtye God at this time  
shewed his myghtye power, for  
manye dayes, without ceassing,  
we had great raynes: so that all  
laboure and diligence of the Sol-  
diers was hindered: yet for the de-  
lite that they had to overcome  
their enemyes, nothing could dis-  
courage them: but dayly they did  
their endeour against the towne  
and Castell. And those within the  
Towne and the Castell, although  
their

their enemy with out waite feare  
and dally did shoot at them with  
great ordinaunce, and made red-  
ded daye nor night shooting and  
throwing of wilde fyre into the  
Towne, and although their hou-  
ses were covered with strawe  
and reede, and such thinges apte  
to take fyre yet they nothing dis-  
mayde, did daylye defende them-  
selues with making proudstall  
with raw hydes and other thin-  
ges fit for a purpose, for to with-  
stand the violence of the fyre: and  
berye valiantlye defended both  
the Towne and Castell, and as  
fast as anye was broken downe,  
an other would heppe durt him,  
and fight coutry in his roome,  
wherby it is seene that the Mo-  
cours are berye valaunt in kee-  
ping of a holde: yet at the length  
GOD of his mercy shewed be a  
fayre

280  
larger day. For the 29. of August,  
our people with great diligence,  
and no small perill, waded thro-  
ough the ryuer, carying wilde  
fyre in one hand, and their wea-  
pon in the other, and manfullye  
runne bp the Hill, and made an  
assaulte to the breeches of the Ca-  
stell, & set the on fyre, and so with  
the shooting of the ordinaunce on  
the one side, & the casting of y<sup>e</sup> fyre  
on the other, the enimie was for-  
ced to forsake the Bulwacke, and  
to retyre, which gaue our Soldi-  
ers such courage, that they did  
follow the enimie thorow the  
fyre, and thought to winne the  
Castell; but they did fayle of their  
purpose, because the force of the  
fyre was great, and the force of  
the enimy greater, they were for-  
ced to retyre with the losse of 27.  
of their menne, and verie manye  
wounded:

wounded: And of our enimyes  
were slaine 200. The verpe same  
daye the enemy did make a sygne  
as though hee would haue peck-  
ded, but they ment nothing lesse:  
For they had prouided new Bul-  
warkes, and blinded out menne  
with the flames of fyre: therefore  
the Kinges Maiestie was fullye  
bent to shew the vttermost that  
he coulde doe, because the enemye  
shoulde haue no tyme to fortifye  
him. And therefore the next daye  
beinge the 30. daye of August,  
he caused all his armye, aswell  
Horslemen as footemen, to make  
an assault to the Town: and cau-  
sed certaine Horslemen and foot-  
men to make an assaulte to an o-  
ther parte of the Towne, where  
they had vndermined the Wall,  
and threwe downe a great peece  
of it, and set fyre one parte of the  
Castell:

**C**astell: and the place where they  
 were the day before they recou-  
 red, where they found the Musco  
 digging and defending of him  
 selfe: but the Polon droue him  
 backe, and had him wholly in his  
 power: and so the king of Polon  
 being mooued with pittye, lo-  
 thing to shed any christian blood  
 did giue pardon to all them that  
 he found in the Castell, and them  
 that would serue, hee tooke into  
 seruice, which was a great num-  
 ber, because they would saue  
 their goodes, & they that would,  
 hee gaue them safe conduct to go  
 into Moscoui, and those y<sup>e</sup> would  
 not yeelde wer these: the honora-  
 ble Basilius Iuanowitz, Tclateuski  
 Nicolélki Demetrius Michalowitz  
 Schirbathi, Oholeuski, Matthe In-  
 anowitz: Rzewki. Iwan Hrecho-  
 riowitz, Susin, Petrus Inanowitz:  
 V Volenski

248.  
VVolenski Lutzian, Tretiakow,  
Kakoufc: whiche were all Cap-  
taines and Officers in the Town  
and Castell, and therfore the king  
tooke them force ablye prisoners,  
and garded the Towne and Ca-  
stell with his owne Soldiours.  
The nūber of the Moscoues that  
defended the Castell, were 6000.  
which moſte parte was ſlaine  
and found dead in dyches, and of  
them in ſ Towne, there was no  
certaine number known, becauſe  
a great number fled . And alſo  
there was found within ſ town  
and Caſtell ſuch ſtoze of ordi-  
nauce, with powder, ſhot, and  
lead, and all other kinde of Artil-  
lerye, that there was thought  
there was not the like Towne  
nor Caſtell in Chriſtendome.  
And therfore his Maieſty ſeeing  
that GOD hath geuen him ſuch  
victory

288  
victory ouer his enimyes, more  
then he deserued or looked for,  
gaue commaundement thro-  
rough all his Realme,  
to geue God praise  
and thanks.

(:.)

*FINIS.*

¶ Imprinted. 1579.